

SENATE BILL No. 470

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-51.

Synopsis: Schools receiving choice scholarships. Provides that a school that is eligible to accept choice scholarships may: (1) be accredited by the state board of education or a national or regional accreditation agency that meets the standards adopted by the state board of education (state board); and (2) use a locally adopted assessment program instead of the ISTEP program. Provides that an eligible school that is accredited by a national or regional accreditation agency recognized by the state board is not required to conduct teacher evaluations in the same manner as public schools. Provides that the department of education (department) may not require an eligible school that is accredited by a national or regional accreditation agency recognized by the state board to report any information that is not necessary to determine the school's eligibility to participate in the choice scholarship program. Requires the department to provide proof that the information requested is necessary at the time the information is requested.

Effective: July 1, 2015.

Schneider

January 14, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Education & Career Development.



First Regular Session 119th General Assembly (2015)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 470

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 20-51-1-4.7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.211-2013,
2 SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 4.7. "Eligible school" refers to a public or
4 nonpublic elementary school or high school that:
5 (1) is located in Indiana;
6 (2) requires an eligible choice scholarship student to pay tuition
7 or transfer tuition to attend;
8 (3) voluntarily agrees to enroll an eligible choice scholarship
9 student;
10 (4) is accredited by either:
11 (A) the state board; or
12 (B) **for a school that is an eligible school on January 1,**
13 **2015,** a national or regional accreditation agency that ~~is~~
14 **recognized meets the standards adopted** by the state board;
15 (5) administers **either:**
16 (A) the Indiana statewide testing for educational progress



(ISTEP) program under IC 20-32-5; or

(B) a locally adopted assessment program that meets the requirements set forth in IC 20-26-15-6(7);

(6) is not a charter school or the school corporation in which an eligible choice scholarship student has legal settlement under IC 20-26-11; and

(7) submits to the department only the student performance data required for a category designation under IC 20-31-8-3.

SECTION 2. IC 20-51-4-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]: **Sec. 1.5. An eligible school that is accredited by a national or regional accreditation agency recognized by the state board is not required to conduct teacher evaluations under IC 20-28-11.5.**

SECTION 3. IC 20-51-4-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.211-2013, SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 7. (a) The department shall administer this chapter.

(b) The department shall approve an application for an eligible school within fifteen (15) days after the date the school requests to participate in the choice scholarship program.

(c) The department shall approve an application for a choice scholarship student within fifteen (15) days after the date the student requests to participate in the choice scholarship program.

(d) Each year, at a minimum, the department shall accept applications from March 1 through September 1 for:

(1) choice scholarship students; or

(2) eligible schools;

for the upcoming school year.

(e) The department shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter.

(f) The department may adopt emergency rules under IC 4-22-2-37.1 to implement this chapter.

(g) The department may not require an eligible school that is accredited by a national or regional accreditation agency recognized by the state board to report any information that is not necessary to determine the school's eligibility to participate in the choice scholarship program or to carry out section 9 of this chapter. The department must include proof that the information requested is necessary under this subsection at the time the request for information is made.

